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**Subject:** Fwd: CWAC WEEKLY UPDATE  
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From: <[contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org](mailto:contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org)>  
Date: Mon, Jan 18, 2016 at 2:22 PM  
Subject: CWAC WEEKLY UPDATE  
To:

## **Clean Water Action Council Weekly Update** **January 18, 2016**

**The office will be open Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00-5:00. On Monday Dean will be representing CWAC at the Sustain Door County meeting to discuss the spring sustainability fair.**

**Please send us your postings by Sunday for our Weekly Update on Monday.**

**CWAC Commentary on “Walker promises 'science-based' groundwater solutions” Karen Ebert Yancey, USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin, 1/16/16**  
<http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/local/kewaunee-county/2016/01/14/walker-promises-science-based-groundwater-solutions/78791096/>

The article reported that Gov, Scott Walker held an invite-only “town hall” meeting at the Kewaunee County Administration building on January 14 and promised “science-based” groundwater solutions: ironic given his recent cuts to the WDNR which has severely handicapped the agency’s science capabilities.

In October, 2014, a petition was filed with the EPA for emergency action under provisions of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Although the WDNR meet with area farmers in March, it took the agency until July to begin meetings of solution seeking workgroups made of up citizens, petitioners, ag. representatives, and county government leaders.

The private meeting is typical of the Walker administration’s history of placing business interests of a few over the interests of the many citizens impacted by his policies. The general public, including members of the workgroups, except those representing business interests, were excluded from the meeting. Excluded was Lee Luft, county board supervisor, Kewaunee County Land and Water Committee Secretary, and a member of the workgroups who has been voice for citizens impacted by bad water.

As a member of the Compliance Workgroup, I noted that some of the solutions have been available for years. However, the WDNR lack both the staffing and the political will monitor for compliance of large farms and others with a history of violations.

When the final recommendations of all the workgroups are submitted, will the Governor and legislature have the will to do what is best for the many versus the interests of a few businesses in Kewaunee County?

**The Winter 2015-2016 Newsletter, *Who Is Protecting the Waters of Wisconsin?* was mailed or emailed on December 9 and our 2016 membership drive is underway. Let us know if you need additional copies to share or direct people to <http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org/newsletter/>**

**Efforts to protect the waters of Kewaunee County continue:  
Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Petition Workgroup meetings update.**

**Sensitive Areas and Management Practices to Reduce Groundwater Contamination Workgroup will meet on January 21 at Luxemburg Co. Fairgrounds from 1-4:30 p.m.**

The meeting is open to the public. Kewaunee County soil and soil to bedrock maps are available from CWAC by email.

**Our 2016 membership drive is underway. Memberships are for each calendar year. We treat memberships as active even though dues may not be paid until later in the year. The year of your last renewal is noted on your newsletter label or in the email with the attached Winter Newsletter. Please consider a more generous donation if you did not make a donation in 2015. Help us continue working to protect human health and the environment. Please ask a friend to join.**

You can renew or join in several ways:

- Use the attached membership form.
- Use the membership link from our website  
<http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org/membership/>
- Or, renew with the Paypal Donate link at the bottom of the page.

**A huge thank you to the many members who have already renewed for 2016.**

**Membership donations pay for a significant part of our operations. Thank you for your support!**

## **ACTIONS**

**The Public Trust and AB 600 - a giveaway of public land and access to our water**  
MEA, Jan 13, 2016

Column from MEA's founding board member, Arlen Christenson, on why proposed legislation would violate constitutional protections for land held in the public trust by state government.

[READ FULL STORY](#)

### **Why exempting fish farms from water and wetlands protections gives industry a free pass**

MEA, Jan 12, 2016

A new legislative proposal's short notice for a hearing kept citizens from participating in the discussion. Fortunately DNR comments made state and federal water law protections clear.

[READ FULL STORY](#)

### **Why a polluter grab bag bill would be bad for public rights to water**

MEA, Jan 07, 2016

Assembly Bill 600 (and Senate Bill 459) would erode Wisconsin's wetlands protections and conflict with basic tenants of our state constitution that protect the public's access to water.

[READ FULL STORY](#)

### **What you can do to support the protection of clean water and the Petition for Corrective Action** MEA, Dec 10, 2015

A lot of people in Wisconsin are asking us how they can sign onto the Petition for Corrective Action. The Petition is already in the hands of the EPA, but there are still things you can do to help.

[READ FULL STORY](#)

### **Don't know your state representative or senator? Find them here**

### **In an effort to promote agritourism in Door County, CWAC Member Michael Finney will sponsor up to two representatives from Door Co. to attend the Agritourism Workshop at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton. Friday, January 29.**

Wisconsin Farmers Union recognizes the value of agritourism in diversifying opportunities for family farms. The workshop, focusing on the challenges and successes of this growing sector of Wisconsin agriculture, will run from noon to 4:30pm and is being offered in partnership with the Wisconsin Agricultural Tourism Association (WATA).

Contact us ASAP if you would like attend.

### **Protect your family and your property values with a town or county ordinance banning manure spraying!**

**We are now helping residents in the Town of Morrison get a spraying ban and recently sent letters to 30 members to offer our support for getting a ban. Shouldn't you join the discussion?**

**A former DNR official noted that the public will be exposed to even greater health risks than already exist from manure spreading. If local units of government don't step up, no one will.**

**-See what manure spraying looks like:**

<https://www.facebook.com/Upworthy/videos/1039715922735932/>

**Help us bring a ban to your town. Contact Dean at 920-421-8885 to find out how easy it is.**

## **AREA EVENTS, also see CWAC Newsletter Calendar of Events**

### **"Protecting Our Planet through Sustainability: Solutions for Climate Change"**

**Roger Kuhns, Ph.D., a Climate Change Coalition of Door County Program**

**7 pm Tuesday, Feb. 2, at Bjorklunden, 7590 Boynton Lane, Baileys Harbor**

Geologist and environmental scientist **Roger** Kuhns has worked around the world on community sustainability projects, using the triple bottom line approach which focuses on the environment, the economy and the community. He argues that true sustainability depends on advances in all three spheres. In his talk, he will discuss progress to date and additional measures needed to address climate change while supporting economic and community development.

For more information contact Dick Smythe at 920.854.3330

### **Our Daily Dose, Fluoride in Drinking Water Film and Discussion**

**Saturday, February 13, 10:00 -11:30 a.m. Stephenson Public Library, Marinette**

**Sponsored by CWAC and presented by intern, Brenda Staudenmaier.**

Much more is now known about the link between fluoride and health than when it first added to municipal water supplies over 70 years ago. Learn why some experts believe that the forced intake of the drug fluoride is a violation of individual rights and is a social justice issue.

Brenda's presentation is available to other groups throughout northeast Wisconsin. Email her at [contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org](mailto:contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org) to schedule.

## **UPDATES**

**Meet CWAC member and Kewaunee CARES founding member Bill Iwen, a petitioner to the EPA for Corrective Action for the Clean Water Act**

Bill Iwen grew up in Kewaunee County. After graduation from high school, he moved away and served in the United States Air Force. After serving his country, he attended colleges in pursuit of a professional degree. When Bill completed his education, he returned to Kewaunee County in 1976. After a 30-year career as a dentist, Bill retired and became active in a wide range of environmental activities in Kewaunee County.

It's one thing for us to encourage individuals to test their well water for nitrates or bacteria," said Bill. "But when our DNR continues to rubber stamp water pollution permits for new and expanding factory farms – without any meaningful consideration for the impact of excessive manure waste on our land and in our water – we need the EPA to step in and help get our state back on track with the Clean Water Act."

See more and share the link: <http://midwestadvocates.org/citizen-voices-matter/overview/bill-iwen/in/defending-our-water>

### **EPA stayed silent on Flint's tainted water**

Jim Lynch, The Detroit News January 12, 2016

#### ***CWAC: Will the EPA also fail to help Kewaunee County residents protect their drinking water?***

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's top Midwest official said her department knew as early as April about the lack of corrosion controls in Flint's water supply — a situation that likely put residents at risk for lead contamination — but said her hands were tied in bringing the information to the public.

Starting with inquiries made in February, the federal agency battled Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality behind the scenes for at least six months over whether Flint needed to use chemical treatments to keep lead lines and plumbing connections from leaching into drinking water. The EPA did not publicize its concern that Flint residents' health was jeopardized by the state's insistence that such controls were not required by law.

Read more at: <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2016/01/12/epa-stayed-silent-flints-tainted-water/78719620/>

### **New Research Highlights Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria In Milwaukee Waterways**

#### **Biologists Behind New Study Say Bacteria Could Reduce Effectiveness Of Drugs**

Recently published biological research raises concerns about antibiotic-resistant bacteria in Milwaukee waterways.

To conduct the study, researchers working for Wisconsin Sea Grant and other institutions took water and sediment samples from the Milwaukee Harbor, along with three tributaries. The team then grew bacteria from the samples and tested the micro-organisms with 17 kinds of antibiotics. In many cases, the bacteria won. Hristova urged people not to use antibacterial products that can lead to the growth of drug-resistant "superbugs."

Full story at: <http://www.wpr.org/new-research-highlights-antibiotic-resistant-bacteria-milwaukee-waterways>

## **Why Doesn't the USDA Test for Residues on Food From Monsanto's 'Cancer Causing' Glyphosate? Carey Gillam, U.S. Right to Know | January 14,**

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Bottom of Form

When microbiologist Bruce Hemming was hired two years ago to test breast milk samples for residues of the key ingredient in the popular weed-killer Roundup, Hemming at first scoffed at the possibility. Hemming, the founder of St. Louis-based Microbe Inotech Laboratories, knew that the herbicidal ingredient called glyphosate was not supposed to accumulate in the human body. Hemming, who previously worked as a scientist for Roundup maker Monsanto Co., now operates a commercial testing facility located just a few miles from Monsanto's headquarters.

But Hemming said his lab's testing did find residues of glyphosate in the samples of breast milk he received from a small group of mothers who were worried that traces of the world's most popular herbicide might be invading their bodies. Food companies, consumer groups, academics and others have also solicited testing for glyphosate residues, fueled by fears that prevalent use of the pesticide on genetically engineered food crops may be contributing to health problems as people eat foods containing glyphosate residues.

Those fears have been growing, stoked by some scientific studies that have shown health concerns tied to glyphosate, as well as data from the U.S. Department of Interior finding glyphosate in water and air samples. The concern surged last year after the World Health Organization's cancer research unit said it had found enough scientific evidence to classify glyphosate as a probable human carcinogen.

Many key food crops are sprayed directly with glyphosate, including corn, soybeans, sugar beets, canola and even in some cases, wheat, though wheat has not been genetically engineered as glyphosate-tolerant.

"It is a scandal that USDA tests for hundreds of pesticide residues but not glyphosate, which is among the most widely used chemicals on our food crops," Gary Ruskin, co-director of U.S. Right to Know, a nonprofit consumer group, said. "Consumers want to know how much glyphosate is in our food. Why won't the USDA tell us? "

In a statement that accompanied the annual pesticide residue report, the EPA's Jones lauded the data as an "important part of ... our work to evaluate pesticide exposure from residues in food" and said that "EPA is committed to a rigorous, science-based and transparent regulatory program for pesticides that continues to protect people's health and the environment."

But given the health concerns raised by the World Health Organization and the rising use of this pesticide, consumers deserve better. It seems reasonable for the USDA to respect consumer concerns and make glyphosate residue testing a priority.

**Email us for a copy of this study on CAFOs to go public tomorrow**

*Science Team Report and Recommendations (Findings of Fact) Environmental Human Health & Safety Risk To Water Quality, Air Quality, Soil Quality, and Natural Areas From Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) Town of Sylvester, Green County, Wisconsin, December 29, 2015.*



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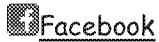
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